

Amendments to the Claims

1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) A soft magnetic composite powder used for producing a soft magnetic compact, wherein the soft magnetic composite powder comprises a soft magnetic material powder having a surface covered with an electrical insulating material comprising at least an inorganic insulating material, and wherein a resin material is fusion-bonded to a surface of the inorganic insulating material so as to partially cover the surface of the soft magnetic material powder.

14. (Previously presented) The soft magnetic composite powder according to claim 13, wherein the surface of the soft magnetic material powder is covered with an inorganic insulating layer containing the inorganic insulating material, and wherein the resin material is fusion-bonded to the inorganic insulating layer.

15. (Previously presented) The soft magnetic composite powder according to claim 13, wherein the electrical insulating material contains the resin material.

16. (Previously presented) The soft magnetic composite powder according to claim 13, wherein the inorganic insulating material is a glass material.

17. (Previously presented) The soft magnetic composite powder according to claim 13, wherein the soft magnetic material powder is an amorphous soft magnetic alloy.

18. (Previously presented) The soft magnetic composite powder according to claim 13, wherein the soft magnetic composite powder is granulated with the resin material.

19. (Previously presented) The soft magnetic composite powder according to claim 14, wherein the resin material is a particulate resin material having a particle diameter of a half or smaller than that of the soft magnetic material powder.

20. (Previously presented) The soft magnetic composite powder according to claim 14, wherein the composite powder comprises 0.3 to 6% by weight of the inorganic insulating material, 3 to 8% by weight of the resin material, and the balance of the soft magnetic material powder.
21. (Previously presented) The soft magnetic composite powder according to claim 13, wherein the inorganic insulating material is a glass material, and wherein the particle diameters of the glass material and the resin material are a half or smaller than that of the soft magnetic material powder, and wherein the composite powder comprises 0.3 to 10% by weight of the glass material, 3 to 8% by weight of the resin material, and the balance of the soft magnetic material powder.
22. (Previously presented) A method for producing a soft magnetic composite powder comprising a soft magnetic material powder whose surface is covered with an electrical insulating material containing at least an inorganic insulating material and a resin material fusion-bonded to the surface of the inorganic insulating material so as to partially cover the surface of the soft magnetic material powder, the method comprising: covering the soft magnetic material powder with the electrical insulating material; mixing the soft magnetic material powder with the resin material; and fusing the resin material to the inorganic insulating material.
23. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the inorganic insulating material is a glass material, and further comprising forming a glass layer by fusing the glass material to the surface of the soft magnetic material powder; and then fusing the resin material to the glass layer.
24. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the glass material is a low melting point glass having a softening point of about 550°C or lower.

25. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the resin material is a particulate resin material having a particle diameter of a half or smaller than that of the soft magnetic material powder.
26. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the composite powder comprises 0.3 to 6% by weight of the inorganic insulating material, 3 to 8% by weight of the resin material, and the balance of the soft magnetic material powder.
27. (Previously presented) A method for producing a soft magnetic composite powder comprising a soft magnetic material powder whose surface is covered with an electrical insulating material containing at least an inorganic insulating material and a resin material fusion-bonded to the surface of the inorganic insulating material so as to partially cover the surface of the soft magnetic material powder, the method comprising: mixing the soft magnetic material powder, the inorganic insulating material and the resin material, thereby covering the surface of the soft magnetic material powder with the inorganic insulating material and the resin material and fusing the resin material to the inorganic insulating material.
28. (Currently amended) The ~~soft magnetic composite powder~~ method according to claim 27, wherein the inorganic insulating material is a particulate glass material, the resin material is a particulate resin material, and the particle diameters of the glass material and the resin material are a half or smaller than that of the soft magnetic material powder, and wherein the composite powder comprises 0.3 to 10% by weight of the glass material, 3 to 8% by weight of the resin material, and the balance of the soft magnetic material powder.
29. (Previously presented) A method for producing a soft magnetic compact, the method comprising: filling a die with a soft magnetic composite powder comprising a soft magnetic material powder whose surface is covered with an electrical insulating material containing at least an inorganic insulating material and a resin material fusion-bonded to the surface of the inorganic insulating material so as to partially cover the surface of the soft magnetic material powder; pressurizing the powder for obtaining a pressured powder, and firing the pressurized powder for obtaining a fired body.

30. (Previously presented) A method for producing a soft magnetic compact, the method comprising: adding a resin material to a soft magnetic composite powder comprising a soft magnetic material powder whose surface is covered with an electrical insulating material containing at least an inorganic insulating material and a resin material fusion-bonded to the surface of the inorganic insulating material so as to partially cover the surface of the soft magnetic material powder; and kneading the mixture, thereby obtaining an injection-molded body of the kneaded mixture.